

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 4 and replaces the original sheet with Fig. 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 2, the specification, the Abstract and Fig 4 are amended; and claim 3 is added. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 2. Claim 2 is amended to overcome the §112 rejection as discussed below. In addition, new independent claim 3 is an independent form of claim 2. As such, claim 3 is allowed.

Claim 1 is amended to preferred U.S. claim format, but the amendment has no bearing on the claim's patentability and is non-narrowing.

The Office Action objects to the drawings, asserting that the synthetic resin material recited in claim 1 is not shown in the drawings. Fig. 4 is amended to obviate the objection. As such, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action objects to the Abstract. The Abstract is amended to obviate the objection. As such, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 2 is amended to obviate this rejection and thus allowed. As such, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,927,499 to Vesborg in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,403,804 to Colombo. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

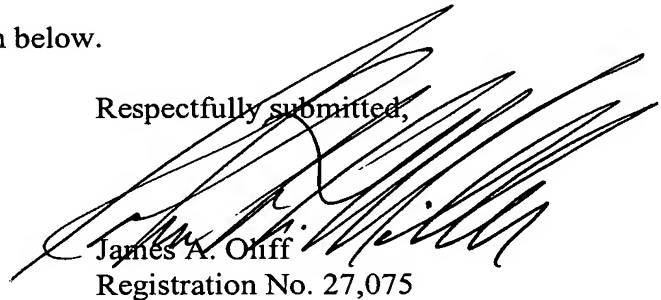
Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, that a plurality of reinforcing ribs are formed from proximate an upper, central portion of the bottom wall towards the lower edge of the bottom wall, and that the reinforcing ribs do not connect to the groove ribs. This feature is shown in Fig. 2.

None of the applied references teach or suggest these features. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 patentably defines over the applied references. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-3 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James A. Oliff', is written over the typed name and registration number.

James A. Oliff
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JAO:RAM/mdw

Attachments:
Amended Abstract
Replacement Fig. 4

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